

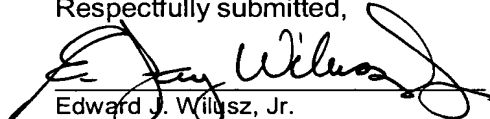
## REMARKS

The claims have been amended in order to eliminate multiple dependencies and to better conform to U.S. practice. The amendment to claim 1 is supported by the language on page 2 in lines 7-14. Claims 2-5 and 7-10 are supported by the original claims.

Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Novartis  
Corporate Intellectual Property  
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Date: September 8, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edward J. Wilusz, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

Edward J. Wilusz, Jr.  
Attorney for Applicants  
Reg. No. 52,370